

BEST SPORTING PAGE IN NEW YORK

BRITTON'S LEFT MADE HIM WELTERWEIGHT CHAMPION OF WORLD

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Jack Britton, Who Annexes a Title After Twelve Years' Determined Effort in Ring, Says He'll Give Any Boxer a Chance at Welter Crown Who'll Scale Under 145 Pounds Ring Side.

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JACK BRITTON, after years of trying, has become a world's champion at last. When Jack beat Kid Lewis in New Orleans he annexed the welterweight title.

In all the history of the ring no other fighter ever stuck to his purpose more doggedly. Success has come to him late—but not too late. When other men who started the climb with him are down and out, Jack Britton is just coming to the noonday of his destiny.

Other champions have burst into the limelight in a single night, their fame and fortune made by one unexpected punch well placed. Perhaps some of them have had a little luck in the matter, but it isn't luck in Britton's case. His story is unique in the annals of pugilism. Matty Matthews had hands and feet from driving his truck when he chipped Mysterious Billy Smith on the chin and became welterweight champion.

Rube Ferns was an unknown when Matthews went down before him. Ferns had hardly fitted the crown to his head when Joe Walcott knocked it off. Honey Melody became famous in a night when he whipped the doughty black champion, whose term of usefulness in the ring had already passed because a bullet had shattered his right leg. Accidents all—more or less—or at least puppets of the great God Luck!

But with Britton it was different. Jack Britton was a welterweight when he started title hunting. In class after class he neared championship form—climbed to the place where he could no longer be overlooked by the existing champion—and then knew too big. True, there were long delays, for he has been fighting for twelve years, and still bears in a long time in the padded ring. His crack at the championship he missed sometimes because he became too good, and the champion dogged and wriggled away from him. They wouldn't let him try. They were afraid of him. On one occasion or another he failed to consider him they kept him back. Britton never stopped trying. Perhaps he felt that some time he'd find his way through opposition and reach the top.

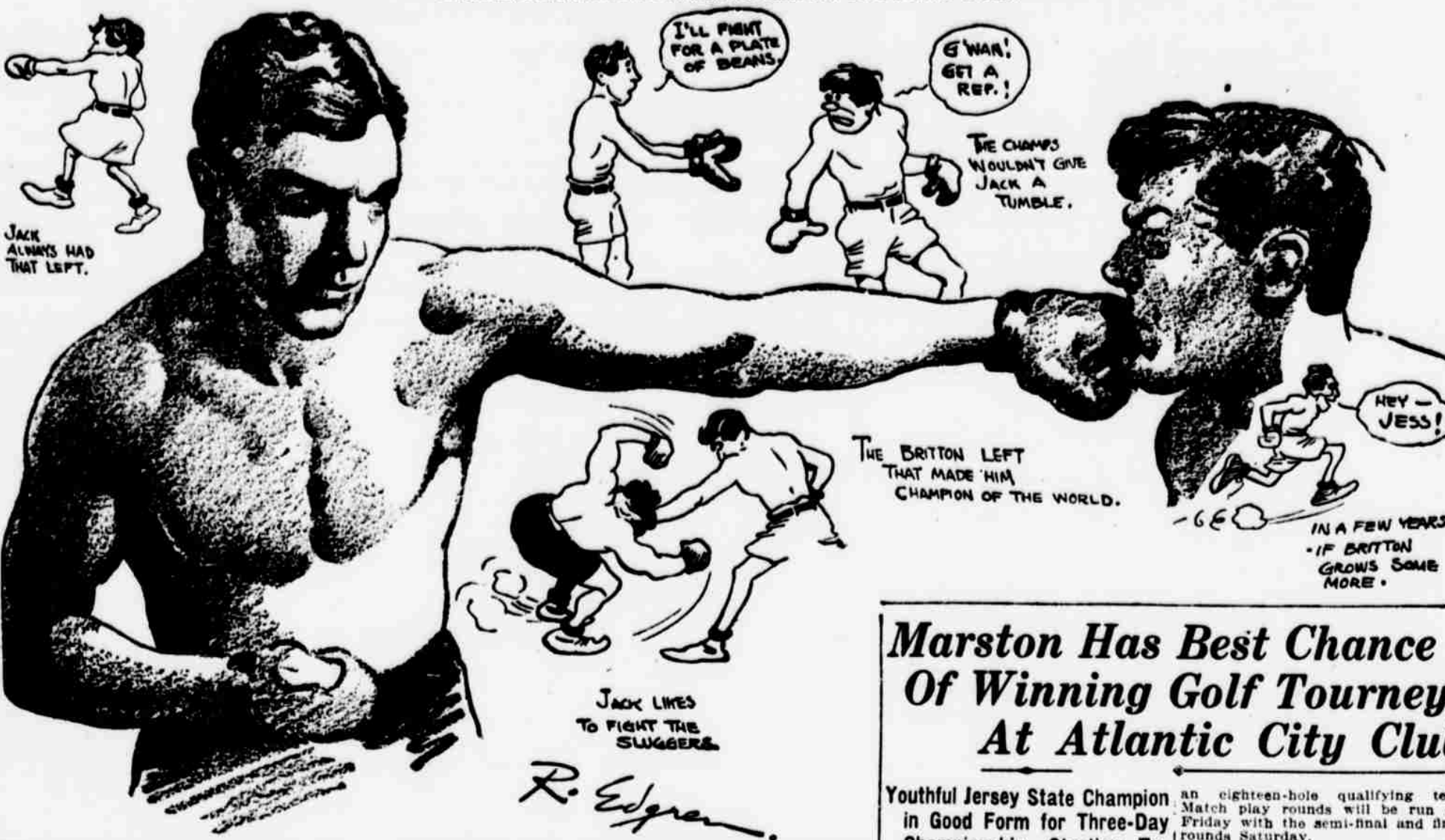
YESTERDAY Britton, fresh from his victory over Kid Lewis at New Orleans, was telling me all about it.

"One of the first hard fights I had was with Red Brown in New Orleans," said Jack. "I had been fighting all over the Middle West and through the Southern States. But I was lucky when I got a hundred dollars for a fight in those days. From the time I started, at seventeen, I had a tough row to hoe. Nearly always I had to give away weight. Down there in New Orleans I was offered a bout with a fellow who was very popular. Ray was a welterweight. I weighed 128 pounds. I took the match without much hope of winning. I needed the money to go to work over being beaten by a bigger man. I had fought fellows like Young Loughrey, Mississippi Tommy Love, Leo Houck, and a bunch of others. I was lucky when I got a fight with Brown. When the crowd roared and hissed, I guess it didn't look like a very good match. But I fought him like a champion. He was a welterweight, but some people in New Orleans still remember that fight. Every time I go there people come to see me and tell me I should have had the decision."

"That was a real fight. I had a good year, fighting Kid Farmer, Bert Keyes, Young Saylor, Tommy O'Keefe, Harry Stone and a few others."

"Then came my first really big fight and my first chance to break into the championship crowd. I fought Packey McFarland in Memphis, eight rounds. They called it a draw. I know I gave Packey the hardest fight he had in a long time. It was years before he fought me again. I went out after him. Danny Morgan became my manager, and for the first time I began getting real money for my fights. I went to New York. I wanted the lightweight championship in those days. I went after it hard. But the champions wouldn't have anything to do with me. I was on the outside looking in. Ad Wolgast was champion. He couldn't see me. Ritchie won his title. Ritchie had taken a four-round decision over me in San Francisco, but as champion he didn't give me a tumble. Freddy Welsh won from Ritchie in England. I wanted to fight Welsh's trail, but it was no use. He wasn't risking decision fights anyway. I boxed and beat nearly all the other good men—over 100 in all—before I got into a ring. But that didn't get me a title."

"ALL the time I was growing slowly. It was hard for me to fight as a lightweight. I boxed McFarland twice. I don't know what was the matter with me in our New York fights, but he certainly had my goat. He was always a wonderful boxer, and he was much heavier whenever we met. He couldn't hurt me, but he had his gloves in my face all the time. His uppercuts didn't daze me, but they looked good. He got all the credit there was in that fight. Later in Milwaukee I didn't do so badly. But Hickey has grown into a middleweight. Any time he can make 145 pounds or less he can have a chance at my welter title. He isn't barred."



Braves Hurdle Four Clubs and Land in First Place in National League Race

Giants' Victory Over Dodgers Causes Latter to Drop into Second Position, While in the American League the Yanks Hopped Back into First Division by Trimming Athletics, and Cleveland Is Ready to Assume Lead Should Senators Slip a Cog.

By Bozeman Bulger.

AIDED by the successful rear-guard action of the Giants against the Dodgers, George Stallings took a running jump over night and landed his Braves in first place, throwing the National League into another mad scramble. In his record-breaking vault Stallings hurled Phillies, Dodgers and Cubs, after having enjoyed the leadership limelight for a single day. The Phillies, prohibitive favorites a week ago, will have to fight to-day to stick to the first division.

But for the bad start of the Giants this would have been the merriest mix-up the old league has had for many years.

It was almost as bad in the American. By trimming the Athletics the Yanks hopped back in the first division and the Red Sox have fallen from their high estate to a tie for leadership of the second grade. Cleveland, despised of all clubs a month ago, now holds second place, and the slightest slip on the part of the

some middleweights. Kid Lewis earned a decision over me in Boston. That and my McFarland fight in Madison Square Garden were the hardest fights I ever had. But I can say truthfully I wasn't hurt in either. They were just hard fights. I was marked in some of my early fights, but not in any of the hard ones I've had in the past five or six years.

"I decided that the welterweight title ought to belong to me. I beat a lot of men who claimed it. For the rough ones the slugs were easiest. They say I'm a fast fighter. I can fight pretty foolish, and the Soldier mixed it well enough with Mike Gibbons. At last came the chance with Lewis in New Orleans. He was a welterweight, but I was on the outside looking in. Ad Wolgast was champion. He couldn't see me. Ritchie won his title. Ritchie had taken a four-round decision over me in San Francisco, but as champion he didn't give me a tumble. Freddy Welsh won from Ritchie in England. I wanted to fight Welsh's trail, but it was no use. He wasn't risking decision fights anyway. I boxed and beat nearly all the other good men—over 100 in all—before I got into a ring. But that didn't get me a title."

MAJOR LEAGUE RESULTS AND STANDING

National League.				American League.			
Club.	W.	L.	P.C.	Club.	W.	L.	P.C.
Braves	4	2	.667	Yankees	10	6	.625
Giants	3	3	.500	Red Sox	9	7	.563
Phillies	2	4	.333	Cleveland	8	8	.500
Cubs	2	4	.333	St. Louis	7	9	.438
Dodgers	1	5	.167	Boston	6	10	.375

Results of Games Yesterday.
New York, 3; Brooklyn, 1.
Boston, 4; Philadelphia, 2.
St. Louis, 3; Chicago, 1.
Cincinnati vs. Pittsburgh (rain).
Brooklyn at New York.
Philadelphia at Boston.
Chicago at Pittsburgh.
Cincinnati at St. Louis.

Games To-Day.
New York at Philadelphia.
Senators will send them to the head of the class.

With Boehling in the box the Senators held their own against the Red Sox and now have a very fair margin as leaders of the league. It was a hard fight between Boehling and Shorers, but the Sox growing dangerous in the seventh inning with four runs in a wad. Boehling finally settled down, though, and saved the day—also the lead.

The event of large importance in America—meaning Greater New York—was the victorious charge of the Giants against Brooklyn. It ended their string of eight straight defeats and gave hope to New York fans of seeing their pet team in the pennant race. The team played as little like the club of last week as the club of last week did the old champions. By some twist of fate, wariat McGraw suddenly brought the boys out of their trance and they played real baseball. It was good to see.

The pitching exhibition of Big Jeff Tesreau was the prettiest thing of its kind seen at the Polo Grounds this season. There was not a weak spot in his performance. But three of the Dodgers hit safely, and those wallows came at a time when the score could not be affected. Big Jeff used his spitter most of the afternoon, but occasionally tore through with a fast ball that had a real hop on it.

Among ballplayers it has long been said that Larry Doyle is the real thermometer of the Giants. When Larry hits the Giants play like quarter horses. When he slumps they slump. Yesterday the wallowing pitcher sent the Giants into a three clean smashes in a row and things immediately perked up. The club managed to win, even without the aid of B.

Columbia Plays 15-Inning Tie With Penn Nine

PHILADELPHIA, May 3.—In one of the longest ball games ever played at Franklin Field, the Columbia Blue Sox struggled with Penn's ball players for fifteen innings, but night fell before a decided winner could be reached, with the score at 2-2.

The lanky Smith of the New York aggregation was the chief rival of Penn's twirler. The Columbia pitcher was a real toughie, and the latter found himself in hot water in the seventh inning, in which the Quakers tied the score.

During the eight and one-third innings, the time of Smith's toil on the mound, he allowed the Quakers only three hits. He was at his best with opponents on the runways, and although in four different frames he permitted a rival to reach first base, he was never in real danger of defeat.

GIANTS to-day with BROOKLYN, 3 to 1. P. M. Polo Grounds. Adm. 50c.—Adv.

Marston Has Best Chance Of Winning Golf Tourney At Atlantic City Club

Youthful Jersey State Champion in Good Form for Three-Day Championship, Starting Tomorrow, Which Has Attracted Over 100 Entries.

OVER one hundred entries are already in for the three-day golf tournament of the Atlantic City Club which starts tomorrow. This spring meet of the Jersey club has always been popular with club swimmers, and judging by the flow of entries the starting field this year will break all records for size and class.

Many of the most prominent golfers in the Metropolitan district will tee-up on the Jersey links. In the number will be young Max Marston, who appears to have the best chance of winning the tournament. The youthful Jersey State champion has been practicing diligently all winter with his half-iron shots until now his game is practically perfect, if it is possible for any golfer's game to be so finely developed. The Atlantic City meet will be the first one of the season for Marston.

The opening day will be devoted to

an eighteen-hole qualifying test. Match play rounds will be run off Friday with the semi-final and final rounds Saturday.

The tournament is open to all golfers who belong to clubs with membership in the U. S. Golf Association. All entries should be in the hands of the club secretary by this evening. Entries for the handicap round on Saturday should be in by early Saturday morning.

This amateur business is being drawn so finely that Herbert Strong, Secretary of the Professional Golfers' Association, found it necessary to ask the United States Golf Association for a ruling on an amateur who might be invited to act as permanent secretary of the association. Strong feared that the mere association with professionals might force an amateur to surrender his simon-pure standing.

The Hackensack Club will stage on May 13 an exhibition match that will come pretty near being the best that will be seen all season. It will be a foursome with Max Marston and Oswald Kirkby, the Jersey winners, on one side and Jerry Travers, open national champion, and Phil Carter on the other. With these four sensational birds lined up for business the match should be full of action.

The Hackensack Club simply asks all golfers to remember the date—May 13.

Jeff Smith, the Bayonne, N. J., middleweight, has been matched for another fight by his manager, Al Lippe. His opponent will be Joe Borrell, the bulky middleweight of Kenosha, Wis. They will clash in a six-round battle at a show to be brought off at Reading, Pa., on the night of May 10. Borrell is one of those gam, rushing fighters and probably make Smith buckle in order to beat him.

A match has been arranged between Phil Bloom of Brooklyn and Dick Stroh, the promising fighter of Cleveland. They will have it out in a ten-round battle at the Clermont A. C. of Brooklyn on Saturday evening, May 13. Bloom is to receive a guarantee of \$300, Stroh's manager, Leo Flynn, taking a percentage of the gross receipts and guaranteeing Bloom that sum.

Johnny Lane, the west side welterweight, who recently returned from Canada, where he engaged in many hard battles during the season, has been matched to fight Joe Homan, the sturdy fighter of Perth Amboy, N. J., in a ten-round battle at the Totten Sporting Club of Toms River, N. J., on the night of May 8. Homan has been making a good showing in bouts at that club.

Danny Morgan, manager of Battling Lerinsky, and Jim Buckley, manager of Gimbal Smith, last night agreed to let their men meet in a six-round bout at the Olympic Club of Philadelphia, or an eight-round battle at the Futura A. C. of St. Louis. The matchmakers of both clubs are after the bout, and the one that offers the best inducement will get the contest.

Bill Brennan, the Chicago Celt who knocked out One-Hound Darrs, three rounds on Monday night, has been matched by the management of the Clermont Rink, Brooklyn, to box Boer Rodet tomorrow night. Brennan is confident that he will stop the Boer as quickly as he did Davis.

The other ten-round battle proved to be a far better scrap. Young Brown, the rugged east side fighter, met Sammy Hobbins of Philadelphia and from the first clang of the bell until the contest ended the men slugged each other continually. Brown was very poor frequently on Rodet that he had him going in many of the rounds. Brown won by a big margin.

Billy Gibson has been notified by the Government of Buenos Aires, Argentine Republic, that they intend to stage several boxing shows there during the month of July, and asking him to send down from sixteen to eighteen real top-notchers of the prize ring to engage in fifteen and twenty round bouts at the different shows. "Gib" is one looking up some of the good swaggers to make the journey. Phil Bloom will be one of them.

Jim Coffey, the Irish heavyweight, who fights Carl Morris ten rounds in the open air at Tulsa, Okla., on Memorial Day afternoon, started training today at the New York A. A. for the battle. Coffey is to get a big guarantee, with an option of 30 per cent. of the gross receipts, which the club officials declare will make the end of the fight between \$5,000 and \$10,000.

Charles Harvey, former Secretary of the State Athletic Commission, is now signing up fighters to make a trip to Australia, where they can take part in several fights. Charles is now manager of Eddie Wallace, the clever Brooklyn lightweight, who recently beat Frankie Fleming in two

PUTTING 'EM OVER With "Bugs" Baer

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RABID RUDOLPH.

RAYO

"IT'S a toss up whether somnambulism is worse during the night or day."

The Giants look like a strong aggregation—physically.

If Joe Gideon is the bloomer that Griff claims then Joe must be a century dead.

A player limit of twenty-one at least is a better idea than having twenty-two left on the bases.

Assistant Attorney General Todd's request that the American Cap Company be dissolved as a trust comes too late to save the business from being decorated.

The Harvard, Wisconsin and Penn relay teams managed to defeat Ted Meredith.

Al Reich has parted from his old manager, which may lead to a controversy to determine who gets the sponge.

The baseball season will not be really here until Ty Cobb misses Frank Baker's leg and spikes the bug.

In spite of Rud Kipling's arbitrary ruling, the West and East meet next week.

If Nap Lajoie can steal home, some of the younger players ought to be able to steal first.

All the bravery at Verdun pales into Class C stuff in comparison to the thirty men who dared to come out yesterday for Penn's football team.

Tulsa, Okla., will pay to have Carl Morris and Jim Coffey fight at Tulsa. Any other city is willing to pay to have Carl and Jim fight at Tulsa.

The Giants' outfield is the best in the league with the possible exception of coming in for lunch.

Catcher Henry of Washington varied the monotony on Monday by clearing the bases with a two-base hit instead of a two-base throw.

The way Mr. McGraw is shaking it up you might call it the batting disorder.

Yale's second crew is faster than the first. If Yale races her first crew in the regattas every critic in the country will earn a "WHY?"

The automobile foisted on Fred Merkle looks like a deep laid plot hatched by the gasoline barons.

Generally, all accounts of games pitched by Walter Johnson are cipher messages.

They say this European-Mexican boob is cutting very deep into President Wilson's baseball routine.

ANSWERS TO QUERIES.

U. M.—The Masked Marvel unmasked and gave the mask to the audience, who gave it to his little boy when he got home.

Knutt—We can't tell who will win the pennant, but we can tell you who won't.

Bhugg—Players who soldier are not tried by a military court.

Kurios—Polo is a fairly cheap game. You can get a pony for \$1,000 and a couple of extra ponies when one gets punctured. The incidentals should be less than \$50,000.

League says all baseballs Frank Baker puts in the upper bullpen are home runs whether they are or not. If true, this doesn't go to Frank's credit at all.

PENNANT PROSPECTS.

By Rabid Rudolph, Only Left-Handed Baseball Expert.

With three teams, New York's chances of seeing a world series figure out 3 in 16. Boston's are 2 in 16. Cleveland's are only 1 in 16, but we'd rather see the Indians win, because we wouldn't have to travel over the New Haven. Detroit hasn't lost a game in the East yet, mainly because they haven't been in the East yet.

Washington is almost certain to finish where Walter Johnson does. At the present time all 16 teams look like pennant winners, but looking through a three-month telescope we see a robust, rollicking, rotund figure, blocking the small end. He has a "B" on his uniform. This may mean Brooklyn, Cincinnati, Boston or Pittsburgh. Now you can't say we didn't warn you.

Beecher Defends Harvey.

BOSTON, May 3.—Willie Beecher and Johnny Harvey fought a hard battle at the Armory A. A. last night, and at the end of the twelve rounds Beecher was declared the winner. Harvey was the favorite and his defeat surprised his followers.

INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

STANDING OF THE CLUBS.
W. L. P.C.
Newark 5 3 .609
Providence 4 4 .500
Montreal 3 5 .375

RESULTS YESTERDAY.
Newark, 13; Rochester, 7.
Montreal, 11; Richmond, 1.
Buffalo, 4; Providence, 3.
Baltimore, 6; Toronto, 2.

GAMES TO-DAY.
Rochester at Newark.
Montreal at Richmond.
Buffalo at Providence.
Toronto at Baltimore.

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